5th August 1932]

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know whether the procedure adopted in this case is not opposed to the rules regarding the calling of tenders?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" The general rule is that tenders must be called for. In this particular case, it is in the interests of everybody that it was given to the principal contractor."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Was it given with the previous consent of the Government, or was the matter subsequently ratified by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" The Government subsequently ratified the Chief Engineer's action. He has discretion in the matter."

Law and Order—General

Alleged beating of certain picketers in Bezwada on 10th June 1932.

* 145 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on 10th June 1932 Mr. Challaswami Narayanamurthi and Surapaneni Gopalakrishnayya picketed the foreign cloth shop of Manikondu Narasimham and Majeti Subbayya in Bezwada;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that in spite of the Government Order, dated 15th January 1932, complaints have been received by Government of individual picketers who are less than five in number being beaten by the police; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the picketers referred to in (*a*) were subsequently admitted into the Peoples' Hospital for treatment; if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to call for a statement from the Medical Officer in charge of the hospital showing the number and nature of injuries received and place the same on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Challaswami Narayanamurthi, Surapaneni Gopalakrishnayya and three others picketed the foreign cloth shops in the bazaar in Bezwada on 10th June 1932.

(*b*) Allegations have been made in some instances and have been investigated.

(*c*) The Government have no information, but will enquire.

Lathi charges in Bezwada between 6th January 1932 to 4th July 1932.

* 146 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many lathi charges or cane charges have there been in Bezwada from 6th January 1932 to 4th July 1932;

(*b*) what the number of persons injured in each charge is and what the nature of their injuries is; and